

REMARKS

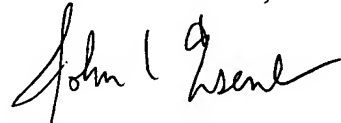
Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 15, 16, 18 and 19 have been amended to eliminate the multiple dependency. Prompt examination and allowance in due course are respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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1 CLAIMS

2

3 1. A release hook for selectively releasing a load
4 supported on the hook, the hook including a pad-eye
5 for connecting the hook to a crane and an ejector
6 lever for releasing the load from the hook upon
7 actuation of the ejector lever characterised in that
8 actuation of the ejector lever is provided by a motor
9 and gearing means located adjacent the ejector lever
10 which move the ejector lever upwards towards the pad-
11 eye to eject the load.

12

13 2. A release hook as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the
14 motor is remotely operated.

15

16 3. A release hook as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2
17 wherein the motor is an electric motor driven from a
18 battery located in the hook.

19

20 4. A release hook as claimed in any preceding Claim
21 wherein the hook comprises a housing having two
22 interconnected generally 'C' shaped sections with the
23 ejector lever being located at a base of the 'C'
24 between the sections.

25

26 5. A release hook as claimed in Claim 4 wherein the
27 sections are bolted together.

28

29 6. A release hook as claimed in any preceding Claim
30 wherein the hook includes a catch.

31

AMENDED SHEET

- 1 7. A release hook as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the
2 catch comprises an elongate member attached to the
3 ejector lever.
4
- 5 8. A release hook as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the
6 elongate member and the ejector lever are oppositely
7 opposed on a pivot.
8
- 9 9. A release hook as claimed in any preceding Claim
10 wherein the gearing means comprises a rack and
11 pinion.
12
- 13 10. A release hook as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the
14 pinion is operable via the motor and the rack is
15 located on the ejector lever.
16
- 17 11. A release hook as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 8
18 wherein the gearing means comprises a worm gear.
19
- 20 12. A release hook as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the
21 motor turns the worm whose screw thread is located
22 against matching notches on an edge of the ejector
23 lever.
24
- 25 13. A release hook as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the
26 gearing means comprises a drive sprocket, driven by
27 the motor to rotate the ejector lever.
28
- 29 14. A release hook as claimed in Claim 13 wherein the
30 gearing means rotates the catch with the ejector
31 lever.
32

AMENDED SHEET

- 1 15. A release hook as claimed in any preceding Claim
2 wherein the pad-eye includes an eye-let aperture such
3 that a link may be made between the pad-eye and a
4 crane block of a crane.
5
- 6 16. A release hook as claimed in any preceding Claim
7 wherein the pad-eye comprises a shaft including
8 connection means to a crane block.
9
- 10 17. A release hook as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the
11 connection means is a screw thread on the shaft to
12 match a threaded recess in the crane block.
13
- 14 18. A release hook as claimed in any preceding Claim
15 wherein the pad-eye is swivel mounted on a top of the
16 hook.
17
- 18 19. A release hook as claimed in any one of Claims 16 to
19 18 wherein the pad-eye includes a base of greater
20 diameter than the shaft, such that the base is
21 retained between the two sections of the housing
22 while remaining rotatable with respect to the
23 housing.
24

AMENDED SHEET